a craving for new ideas and new ideals. They never wanted to interfere with the administration of the Devaswoms or do anything which was likely to wound the feelings of other communities. On the other hand, they were for larger funds being made available for expenditure on Devaswoms. They were only jealous of their own rights and privileges and wanted to uphold them at any cost. The main question was whether they were citizens or not in Travancore. The Member sincerely hoped that their frequent representation would touch the sympathetic chord of Government and that they would be given a favourable reply on the spot.

Dewan's reply.—I have listened to the representations on this subject with very great attention. These representations will receive my very careful and anxious consideration.

140. Need for throwing open the Revenue Department to all classes of subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja.

Mr. N. Kumaran B. A., B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Quilon) before proceeding with his representation observed that *theendal* came into prominence when Government insisted on all classes of pupils being admitted into public schools, as that gave an opportunity to the people to resist the efforts of Government. What the Member emphasised was that Government should not associate themselves with *theendal* or such other religious questions. He then objected to the interpretation of defilement by the High Court in the Kadakavoor temple case and observed that it was against the intention of the legislature. He asked Government to declare that ceremonial defilement was not an offence. The Government should not accept *theendal* or caste; nor should it be recognised by Government officers. A notification should issue to secure the above end.

The Member then requested that the Land Revenue Department be thrown open to all classes of His Highness' subjects and reiterated the grounds urged by the speakers on the previous subject.

Mr. Punnoose Kurien (Member, Changanacherry taluk) dwelt at length on the necessity of granting equality of rights and opportunities to all people in the State and added that, if the merging of the management of temples in the Land Revenue Department was a bar, the Devaswoms should be separated from that department, the different communities being thus afforded an opportunity of serving in the Land Revenue Depatment.

Mr. Varkey Uthuppu (Member, Muvattupuzha taluk) echoed the sentiments and views of the previous Member and requested that Christians and other excluded communities be freely employed in the Land Revenue Department.

Mr Ousep Domini (Member, Trading Classes, Changanacherry) said that he had nothing to add to what had been said already on the subject by other Members.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

141. Social disabilities of Ezhavas and other depressed classes.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan (Member, Nominated) submitted that, though a large percentage of Eazhava boys were attending schools, sufficient interest was not being taken by the department to spread education among the girls of the community. Out of 352 Girls' schools only 180 were open to the community. He requested the Government to impress on the department the need for persistent action in the matter.

Mr. N. R. Krishnan (Member, Nominated) spoke at length against the observance of *theendal* and the consequent disabilities imposed upon the castes affected. He submitted that Government should not hesitate to take steps to remove their disabilities, one of which related to the free use of public roads and lanes. All sign-boards prohibiting certain communities from using particular roads and lanes ought to be removed.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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